

MINUTES AND REPORT
of
MEETING OF COUNCIL
COOPERATIVE FEDERATION OF VICTORIA
held at 369 Lonsdale St., Melbourne on Monday November 19th, 1979
commencing 7.00 pm

1. PRESENT

Mr. M. Rundle Chairman
Mr. K.D. Currey
Mr. A. Dash
Mr. N. Harvey
Mr. E.J. Long
Mr. B.H. Macintosh
Mr. J. Rigby (alternate I.A. Wood)
Mr. O.J. Slattery
Mr. W.W. Rawlinson Executive Officer

Apology for absence received from

Mr. J.N. Black.

2. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held 23rd October 1979 having been circulated
were confirmed and adopted as a correct record.

3. MATTERS ARISING

3.1 Education Planning Committee - Minute 8.ii
Messrs. Dash, Currey and Rawlinson met and recommend to Council
A. In respect of programmes in educational institutions -
(1) Investigate feasibility and cost of production of multi
media kit.
(2) Liaise with Cooperative Federation of Western Australia
(3) Receive report from Mr. Rawlinson after his participation
in the ICA/UNESCO symposium on Schools and Cooperatives
in Paris December 1979.
(4) Make submission to Australian Association of Teachers
Credit Unions Annual Conference January 1980.

B. Programmes for Staff Training -
(1) Continue and develop Financial Administrators Group.
(2) Assess relevance of University of New England programmes
for Credit Unions.
(3) Use VCCA Training Programmes where relevant.
(4) Continue and develop training programmes in conjunction with
Regional Meetings.

3. MATTERS ARISING (cont.)

C. Programmes for Directors -

- (1) Liaise with Australian Dairy Corporation Training staff on programmes organised at Deakin University and Albury.
- (2) Continue to include director programmes in conjunction with Regional Meetings.
- (3) Use VCCA programmes where relevant.
- (4) Prepare Directors Manuals on a cost plus basis.

Council accepted the recommendations and directed a progress report be submitted to the next meeting.

3.ii Report on Conference - Minute 8.v

Council approved the draft report submitted and directed it be circulated widely for information of Cooperatives not represented at the Conference.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

4.1 From Bendigo Trading cooperative - Proposing Regional Meeting in Bendigo as follow-up to Conference.

Council agreed to request the Bendigo Trading Cooperative to organise a meeting in Bendigo on Monday or Wednesday March 24th or 26th 1980, from 5 pm to 10 pm with speakers Mr. G. Benson and Mr. W.W. Rawlinson, to be arranged by the Cooperative Federation.

4.ii From Mr. J. Galvin - expressing appreciation for involvement in 1979 Conference.

4.iii From Cooperative Federation of Australia re Treasury submission to Law Reform Enquiry on Insurance Contracts.

The information will be relayed to Cooperative Insurance Coy. for advice on desirable action.

4.iv From VCCA. Newsletter.

5. FINANCIAL

A Statement of Income & Expenditure from 1.7.79 to 31.10.79 and estimated Balance Sheet as at 31st October 1979 were submitted to the Council, discussed and adopted.

6. LEGISLATION

The Chairman reported on correspondence to and from the Minister and discussions with the Registrar on requests for three amendments to the Cooperation Act which have been recommended by the Registrar to the Minister but will not be submitted to the Spring 1979 session of Parliament. Other amendments to the Act are required and the Registrar advised that further requests for amendments could be considered if submitted before mid-December 1979. These should be submitted to the Autumn 1980 session of Parliament.

Council discussed the diminished status of the Registrar in the Ministry and expressed concern at this situation.

The Executive Officer reported the Minister has recommended to the Premier adoption of the Federation's request for Cooperatives to be included in the definition of small businesses for purposes of the Small Business Development Corporation Act.

7. REVIEW OF 1979 OBJECTIVES

Council reviewed achievements of objectives set in March 1979 and recorded the positive progress made. It was agreed that the next meeting would set a date for a formal planning workshop for review and defining of 1980 objectives.

8. REPORTS8.i Financial Administrators

Mr. Slattery, Chairman of the Group, advised the next meeting is scheduled for 26th November 1979 when the speakers will introduce the topic of 'Government sourced funds for Cooperatives and other businesses.'

It was agreed a further topic in this series would be concerned with Cooperative sourced funds with a view to improving collaboration between Cooperatives.

8.ii Executive Officer

Mr. Rawlinson reported he had received formal advice of ratification of his appointment as a member of the Small Business and Cooperatives sub-Committee of the Victorian Employment Committee. The next meeting is scheduled for 22nd November 1979.

A grant for Maryborough Bootstrap Cooperative has been recommended.

A newsletter will be issued before the end of November publicising the proposed Bendigo Meeting and the visit of the President of the USA National Association of Farmer Cooperatives.

8.iii Advisory Council

Mr. Long reported the Advisory Council met on 15th November 1979. A new member, Mr. Kevin Hall, has been appointed to the Council to succeed Mr. John Balmfield.

Amendments to the Cooperation Act are required to cover the specific situation created by developments in Cooperative Farmers & Graziers Direct Meat Supply. Government approval was given for this Cooperative to issue a prospectus for further capital without reference to the Advisory Council.

The Advisory Council agreed that amendments to Section 54(1)(c) did not significantly change the investment provisions for Cooperatives incorporated under the Act. Specifically, Permanent Building Societies are not recognized as "prescribed securities" or any other security in which Cooperative Societies may invest their funds.

Council directed a welcome letter be written to Mr. Hall.

8.iv Cooperative Federation of Australia

Mr. Macintosh reported the Council of the Cooperative Federation of Australia had met in Sydney on Monday and Tuesday November 12th & 13th 1979.

He advised that the CFA is now entitled to three votes in the Central Council of the International Cooperative Alliance.

He advised that the Federal Government had declined the CFA request for financial assistance in holding the 1980 meetings of the ICA Regional Council in Australia.

He reported on the changed structure of the International Cooperative Trading Organisation which has become essentially a Singapore operation rather than the international operation for which it was established.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

(i) Leave of Absence

Council noted leave of absence granted by the Cooperative Federation of Australia for Mr. Rawlinson from 29th November 1979 to 18th January 1980.

(ii) council Social Function

The Chairman advised the arrangements for the dinner for Councillors and wives on a self financing basis on Friday 23rd November 1979 are complete.

10. NEXT MEETING

It was agreed the next meeting of Council will be held on Monday February 18th 1980.

11. CLOSURE

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.15 pm.



18/2/80